

DEPOSITION

I, ABISA, of IMEJ island, JALUIT ATOLL, MARSHALL ISLANDS, being duly sworn, depose and say that I am now employed at the Native Labor Unit, Naval Air Base, Navy No. 3234. In 1938 the Japanese hired Natives to cut trees on IMEJ island, JALUIT ATOLL to make a place for the air field. There were two divisions of Native Working parties. One would work on gun emplacements and the other on the pier. These would be rotated. The Japanese Navy paid Yen 1.50 per day and the Japanese Company Yen 1.20 a day. The Company was in charge of all supplies for the Japanese Navy and supplied Natives to work for the Japanese Navy. Before the war the Natives that were paid Yen 1.50 a day had to buy their own food. Others were given food by the Navy. The Japanese gave the Natives only rice and canned fish. When the war started and until it ended both the Company and the Navy paid the Natives 85 sen per day. Before the war the food was good but during the war it was bad. The Natives were forced to work in the airfield. The Natives who worked at JALUIT airfield came from other atolls and when they wished to return to their homes the Japanese would not let them.

/s/ ABISAI  
AFFIANT.

We, MANUEL DEBRUM and FERDINAND Z. EMIZ, Interpreters state that we translated the deposition of ABISA from Marshallese to English, and that the above and foregoing is a true and correct translation, to the best of our knowledge and belief.

/s/ MANUEL DEBRUM  
MANUEL DEBRUM

/s/ FERDINAND Z. EMIZ  
FERDINAND Z. EMIZ

Before me, an officer authorized to administer oaths appeared the AFFIANT and the Interpreters whose names are subscribed above, this 16th day of March, 1946.

/s/ FRANK E. O'REILLY  
Lieutenant, U.SNR.

6032

## 口 供 書

マーシャル群島ヤルット環礁イメジ島、私アビサハ正  
 式ニ宣言シ次、如ク詔言シマス。私ハ現在海軍  
 ニニミ四第海軍航空基地、土人労働部隊ニ傭ハ  
 テ居リマス。一九三八年(昭和十三年)ニ日本人ハ飛行  
 場用地建設、為ヤルット環礁イメジ島、樹木ヲ切  
 ル為ニ土人ヲ雇ヒマス。土人労働部隊ハニ群アリマ  
 シ。一群ハ砲、据付ニ他、群ハ埠頭ニ働キ時々交  
 代サレマス。日本海軍ハ一日一月五十錢、日本、合衆、  
 一日一月二十錢支給セマス。コ、合衆ハ日本海軍ハ、  
 給与全部引受ケテ并テ日本海軍、為ニ働ク土人  
 ヲモ供給シマス。戦争之前ハ日給一月五十錢、土人  
 ハ自分、食糧ヲ買ハズナリマシマス。他、者ハ海  
 軍カウ食糧ヲ支給サレマス。

Ex 902

DEPOSITION

I, LANEN, of MALOELAP ATOLL, MARSHALL ISLANDS, being duly sworn, depose and say that I am now employed in the Native Labor Unit, Naval Air Base, Navy No. 3234. In 1939 I was living on MALOELAP ATOLL and in that year three hundred Japanese and four officers came to TARAWA ISLAND on MALOELAP. They put to work fifty natives to remove trees for an airfield. A little later five hundred more Japanese came from Japan. Eighty more natives were given work. The Japanese made the natives work from 6:00 AM to 5:00 PM for 85 sen a day. The natives worked at cutting down trees and making concrete. The trees were carried by four men to a specific place. Natives were also used to carry heavy loads of sand from the beach to the air strip. If the native did not work to suit the Japanese he would be beaten. The Japs sent people with broken limbs to the hospital but those who had internal injuries were not taken care of at the hospital. The airfield was finally completed in 1941 but barracks for the soldiers and other buildings were not completed.

/s/ LENIN  
AFFIANT

I, FERDINAND Z. EMIZ, Interpreter state that I translated the deposition of LANEN from Marshallese to English and that the above and foregoing is a true and correct translation, to the best of my knowledge and belief.

/s/ FERDINAND Z. EMIZ  
FERDINAND Z. EMIZ.

Before me, an officer authorized to administer oaths appeared the AFFIANT and the Interpreter whose names are subscribed above, this 16th day of March, 1946.

/s/ FRANK E. O'REILLY  
Lieutenant, U.S.N.R.